THE FUTURE OF JON KENT STARTS HERE!

SUPERMAN UNLIMITED™

11

13+ TEEN

ALL IN

REIGN OF THE SUPERBOYS

SLOTT
MEYER
PERATELLI

FROM THE TWISTED MINDS OF
WRITER TONY FLEECS AND ARTIST CARMINE DI GIANDOMENICO

Deathstroke #1
THE TERMINATOR

DC NEXT LEVEL

MARCH

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THE WORLD'S DEADLIEST ASSASSIN IS BACK
AND BLOODIER THAN EVER!

ONCE UPON A TIME, IN A MAGICAL ICE CASTLE...

THE GREATEST PERSON EVER...*AND* SUPERMAN HAD A BABY.

AND THEY NAMED HIM *JON*.

OH, AND BATMAN AND WONDER WOMAN WERE THE MIDWIVES.

TOP *THAT*, EVERYBODY ELSE.

YOU CAN'T, CAN YOU?

WHICH IS WHY LI'L JONNY GREW UP TO BE...

...SUPERBOY!

AND HIS BEST FRIEND WAS *ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER.*

HE HAD ALL KINDS OF *AMAZING* ADVENTURES...

...EXCEPT FOR THAT *ONE TIME* WHERE HE WAS TAKEN INTO THE *FUTURE*...

...AND WAS LOST THERE FOR *MANY* YEARS.

FOR A *LOT* OF 'EM THE POOR KID WAS TRAPPED IN A *VOLCANO*.

DID IT SUCK? YEAH, BUT HE GOT THROUGH IT. EVENTUALLY.

THEN HE FOUND HIS WAY HOME.

AND EVERYONE WAS LIKE, "HEY! LOOK HOW MUCH YOU'VE GROWN!"

AND FOR A WHILE, HE EVEN STEPPED IN FOR HIS DAD, AND JON BECAME...

...SUPERMAN
SON OF KAL-EL

EVENTUALLY POPS CAME *BACK*.

AND SINCE THERE WAS NO NEED TO DEMOTE JON BACK DOWN TO *SUPERBOY*...

...EVERYONE WAS COOL WITH HIM *ALSO* BEING *SUPERMAN*.

SO THAT'S WHO JON *WAS* AND WHO HE *IS*...

...BUT I KNOW WHERE THE FUTURE WILL *ULTIMATELY* TAKE HIM...

...TO A *FINAL BATTLE*, IN THE HEART OF A *SINGULARITY* AT THE CENTER OF THE *UNIVERSE*.

SNAP!

THAT'S WHEN AND WHERE HE'LL DESTROY ME.

UNLESS, OF COURSE, I CAN DESTROY HIM FIRST...

...BEFORE WE'VE EVER *MET*.

ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF, *JONATHAN.* I'M **MASTER MXYZ.** THE FOURTH-DIMENSIONAL DEMON.

POPPING IN FOR A QUICK HELLO... AND A *FINAL* GOODBYE!

MXYZPTLK SAID YOU'D DROP BY. I DON'T HAVE A PROBLEM WITH YOU...

...BUT WHATEVER YOU'VE DONE TO *SMALLVILLE...*

...YOU GOTTA *FIX IT! PLEASE!*

KID, THIS *IS* SMALLVILLE. IN A FEW HUNDRED YEARS.

THE HEROES OF THE DC UNIVERSE HAVE EMERGED VICTORIOUS FROM THE KING OMEGA TOURNAMENT... THANKS TO SUPERMAN. KAL-EL OF KRYPTON SACRIFICED EVERYTHING TO BESTOW ALPHA ENERGY UPON EVERYONE AND BRING NEW HOPE TO THE COSMOS... AND DISAPPEARED IN THE PROCESS. NOW FOLLOWS A REIGN OF THE SUPERBOYS, INCLUDING JON KENT, THE...

FALLEN SON

SCRIPT: DAN SLOTT **ARTIST:** LUCAS MEYER **COLORIST:** GIULIANO PERATELLI **LETTERER:** DAVE SHARPE
COVER ARTIST: DAN MORA **VARIANT COVER ARTISTS:** ACO, BRUNO REDONDO, RACHTA LIN, LUCIO PARRILLO
CORNER BOX VARIANT COVER ARTIST: SKYLAR PATRIDGE **ASSISTANT EDITOR:** JILLIAN GRANT **EDITOR:** PAUL KAMINSKI
SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER. SUPERGIRL BASED ON THE CHARACTERS CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER.
SUPERBOY CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL. BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY SIEGEL FAMILY.

THIS IS *ALSO* SMALLVILLE...

SNAP!

...FROM A FEW *MONTHS* AGO.

WHEN THE *TORNADOS* HIT DURING...

...THE STORM OF THE CENTUR--

OOMPH!

WAK

SNAP!

SPSH

MILLIONS OF YEARS AGO.

SNAP!

BILLIONS OF YEARS AGO.

AAHHH!

WHY ARE YOU *DOING* THIS TO ME?!

BECAUSE YOU'RE MY ARCHENEMY.

DUH.

I DON'T *KNOW* YOU! I DON'T *HAVE* ANY "ARCHENEMIES"!

I'M A *NICE* GUY!

SURE! BUT YOU WANNA BE *SUPERMAN,* DON'TCHA, JONNY?

AND SUPERMAN *ALWAYS* HAS ENEMIES.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

I *AM* SUPERMAN!

I'M TALKIN' THE *ONE-AND-ONLY,* KIDDO.

YOU KNOW, NOW THAT YOUR *POPS* HAS GONE *MISSING* AGAIN.

WHAT? MY DAD'S AROUND. I WAS JUST TALKING TO MY MOM ABOUT IT ON THE PHONE.

HE WAS FIGHTING *THE TRICKSTER,* OR *THE PUZZLER,* OR SOMEBODY.

OOH. SORRY. I'M TOO *EARLY.* BY LIKE A COUPLE OF *WEEKS.*

THIS IS *SO* EMBARRASSING. ONE SEC. I CAN *FIX* THIS.

SNAP!

TIME SKIP!

"LET'S SEE... BIG CONTEST. EVERYBODY'S FIGHTIN'. *BLAH BLAH BLAH.*

"KING OMEGA. ALPHA ENERGY. IT'S ALL VERY *HIGHLANDER.* 'THERE CAN BE ONLY *ONE.*'

"DADDY GOES MISSING. YADA YADA. YOU JOIN THE NEW TITANS. *AAAAND...*

"...WE'RE ALL CAUGHT UP. YOU GET ALL A' THAT?"

GYAAHH!

ENOUGH!

YOU WANT TO THROW DOWN WITH SUPERMAN?! FINE! LET'S DO THIS!

RRRAH!

TIME OUT!

THAT'S MORE LIKE IT. *THERE'S* THE JON I KNOW.

NOW WHAT'S THE BEST WAY TO *BREAK* YOU ONCE AND FOR ALL?

THINK. THINK. THINK. THIS ONLY LASTS A FEW SECONDS.

I GOT IT! A MOVE THAT LEAVES *MOST* BEINGS MINDLESS PUDDLES OF GOO.

I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO TRY IT ON *YOU.*

TIME IN!
WHAT--?! HOW'D YOU GET OVER THERE?
I. CONTROL. TIME.
WHAT ABOUT THAT DO YOU *NOT* UNDERSTAND?
ABOUT THAT EARLIER, GUESS I SHOULDA ASKED BEFORE CRAMMING A FEW WEEKS INTO YOUR NOGGIN.
I THOUGHT YOU COULD TAKE IT. MY BAD.
THAT WAS NOTHING.
"OOH. TOUGH GUY. LET'S SEE HOW YOU LIKE *THIS*.
"LOOK, JON, *ALL* OF *TIME* AND *SPACE*!
"EVERYTHING THAT EVER IS OR WAS.
"...*HUMANKIND*. THERE!
"IF YOU BLINKED, YOU MISSED IT.
"MAYBE YOU SAW THEM BUILDING THEIR PYRAMIDS.
"OR AS ATOMIC KNIGHTS RIDING DALMATIANS.
"AND THERE, IN THE BROAD SCHEME OF THINGS...
"A COSMIC SECOND, AND ALL INTELLIGENT LIFE IN THE UNIVERSE IS HERE AND GONE.
"THEN, EVENTUALLY, *EVERYTHING* DIES IN *DARKNESS*.
"AND NOTHING *ANY* OF YOU DID *EVER* MATTERED."

END SCENE!

SO? DID *THAT* DO THE TRICK? AFTER ALL THIS TIME...

...DID I FINALLY MAKE JON KENT *SNAP*?

NOT EVEN CLOSE, TXYZ.

YOU SEE, I COME FROM A TIME...

...WHERE *ANYTHING* IS POSSIBLE. WHERE EVERY MOMENT *MATTERS* AND EVERY LIFE *COUNTS*.

MY FATHER, *SUPERMAN,* TAUGHT ME THAT FIGHTING FOR THAT IS A *NEVER-ENDING BATTLE.*

AND AS THE *NEXT SUPERMAN,* I BELIEVE THAT *TOO.*

WE'RE *DONE* HERE.

HA! HA! HA! H

DONE?!

JON-BOY, YOU JUST GAVE THE *WHOLE* GAME AWAY!

'CAUSE I KNOW YOUR *WEAK SPOT* NOW. YOUR ACHILLES' HEEL...

...YOUR OWN *PERSONAL* KRYPTONITE!

SNAP!

YES. YOU *ARE* THE *SON* OF SUPERMAN...

...BUT THAT'S ALL YOU'LL *EVER* BE!

"I DON'T NEED TO SHOW YOU THE *FUTILITY* OF THE *ENTIRE UNIVERSE* TO SHATTER YOU...

"... JUST THE MEANINGLESSNESS OF YOUR *OWN* EXISTENCE.

"LOOK AT YOU! MOMMY AND DADDY'S PRECIOUS LITTLE ANGEL.

"A SUPER NEPO BABY HAVING FUN WITH YOUR BAT NEPO BABY PAL.

"AND YOU THREW IT ALL AWAY. FOR WHAT?

"A TRIP TO THE *FUTURE*. WHAT WERE YOU HOPING TO SEE?

"MAYBE A GLIMPSE OF *YOURSELF* AS SUPERMAN?

"AND WHAT'D YOU FIND?

"A WORLD WITHOUT JON KENT. A WORLD WITH A TWISTED VERSION OF YOUR FATHER.

"SOMEONE YOU COULD *NEVER* DEFEAT. HE KEPT YOU TRAPPED IN A VOLCANO.

"HE TORTURED YOU FOR *YEARS*. AND WHAT WAS WAITING FOR YOU WHEN YOU GOT HOME?"

SADNESS. YOUR PARENTS TRIED TO HIDE IT, BUT YOU KNEW.

THEY FOREVER MISSED SEEING THEIR SON GROW UP.

LET'S BE HONEST. THE JON WHO CAME BACK...

JAY...

THAT JON WASN'T MUCH OF A GROWN-UP.

YOU HAD *ONE* BIG RELATIONSHIP. AND COULDN'T MAKE IT WORK.

BUT I-I DID GREAT THINGS. I *WAS* SUPERMAN.

SURE. THE *KNOCKOFF* VERSION.

BUT THEN THE *REAL* ARTICLE CAME BACK.

AND YOU BECAME THE *ALSO-RAN.*

FACE IT, SONNY-BOY, WHEN BIG DADDY'S AROUND...

...*YOU* CAN'T GET OUT FROM UNDER *HIS* SHADOW.

C'MON! YOU'VE *BEEN* TO THE FUTURE! *MULTIPLE* TIMES!

YOU'VE *SEEN* ALL THEIR STATUES AND TRIBUTES TO YOUR *OLD MAN.*

FOR THE *REAL* SUPERMAN.

UPE MAN MUSEUM

EVER SEE *ANY* THAT WERE JUST FOR *YOU?*

ANYTHING? NOT EVEN *ONE* PARK BENCH?

AH! WAIT! *THERE* YOU ARE.

IN A GROUP SHOT.

RIGHT BEHIND THE DOG'S BUTT.

THAT'S YOU. YOUR *ENTIRE* STORY.

AN AFTER-THOUGHT.

A FOOT-NOTE.

YOU SEE IT NOW, DON'T YOU?

HOW *PATHETIC* YOU ARE.

HOW DID I EVER CONVINCE *MYSELF* THAT *YOU* WERE MY *GREATEST FOE?*

I *NEVER* ASKED TO BE YOUR--

I'M MASTER TXYZ

THE *FOURTH-DIMENSIONAL DEMON!*

ALL OF *HISTORY* IS MINE TO *COMMAND!*

FROM *DINOSAURS!*

FWAK

TO *WAR MACHINES!*

BRATT BRITT

BRITT BRATT

"FROM BOTH THE *PAST*--"

TKK TEKK TKK

ZRRAAK

"--AND THE *FURTHEST FUTURE!*"

ZRTT

ZZAP

"BUT WHY SHOULD I EVEN *BOTHER?*

"WE'VE *SEEN* YOUR *PAST*, *PRESENT*, AND *FUTURE*, BOY.

"AND WE *BOTH* KNOW, IN THE GRAND SCHEME OF THINGS, YOU, JON KENT...

...AMOUNT TO ABSOLUTELY *NOTHING.*

YOU KNOW WHAT? I DON'T CARE.

I DON'T FIGHT FOR *GLORY* OR *RECOGNITION.*

I FIGHT THE *GOOD FIGHT* BECAUSE IT'S THE *RIGHT THING TO DO!*

AND IF THE *FUTURE* SAYS I WON'T ACHIEVE ANYTHING AS *SUPERMAN,* THEN I CHOOSE...

...TO DEFY HISTORY!

KTAM

WHOOOSH

I'LL WRITE MY OWN STORY!

ZZAKK

IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT I'M CALLED, OR WHAT PEOPLE THINK OF ME. WHAT MATTERS IS THAT I *HELP.*

SUPERMAN, SUPERBOY, DOESN'T MATTER--*ANONYMOUS* LIKE THESE SOLDIERS HERE.

--EXCUSE ME GUYS, I'M MAKING A POINT TO MY "ARCHENEMY"--

THANK YOU, TXYZ. YOU'VE REMINDED ME OF SOMETHING IMPORTANT...

...THE POWER OF MY *OWN* IDENTITY!

I WAS *BORN* JON KENT.

I *INHERITED* MY FATHER'S CAPE.

AND THOUGH I'M *PROUD* OF WHO I *WAS* AND WHO I *AM*...

...I *CHOOSE* TO AIM *HIGHER!*

NO! THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING!

TO BE *MORE* THAN YOU--OR *ANYONE* ELSE--EXPECTS OF ME *TODAY!*

I AM TOMORROW MAN!

IT'S *YOU!* THE WAY YOU APPEAR...

...*WILL* APPEAR...

...HAVE *ALWAYS* APPEARED...

...WHEN WE MEET AT THE *SINGULARITY* AT THE *END OF TIME*...

...WHEN YOU DESTROY ME.

IN TRYING TO *END* YOU, I BROUGHT YOU INTO *BEING*.

SON OF A *GLITCH!*

I *PARADOXED* MYSELF!

UNCLE. I GIVE UP, KENT. YOU GOT ME.

WAIT. SO WE'RE NOT GOING TO FIGHT?

DON'T BE A SORE WINNER, KID.

HERE.

AS IS THE CUSTOM IN A 4-D DUEL...

...YOU GET A TIME GIFT.

HELLO? IS SOMEONE THERE?

I'D CALL IT A PRESENT...

...BUT IT'S ACTUALLY A PAST.

LET ME OUT! PLEASE!

YOUR BEST POSSIBLE PAST.

GOOD LUCK, KIDS. YOU'RE GONNA NEED IT.

BUH-BYE.

TXYZ?! WHERE ARE YOU GOING? WHAT DID YOU MEAN?

HELP ME!

EASY, KID. I GOT YOU.

YOU DID IT!
I'M FREE!

OH BOY.

NEXT TIME...
THE ADVENTURES OF
TOMORROW MAN! AND
SUPERBOY!
THE REIGN OF THE SUPERBOYS CONTINUES NEXT MONTH AND ACROSS *ACTION COMICS*, *SUPERMAN*, AND *SUPERGIRL!*

THE LAST SON OF KRYPTON MEETS YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN!

FEATURING
"TRUTH, JUSTICE, AND GREAT RESPONSIBILITY"
WRITTEN BY
MARK WAID
ART BY
JORGE JIMÉNEZ

SUPERMAN / SPIDER-MAN #1

ON SALE IN **MARCH**

PLUS SEVEN NEW BONUS STORIES FROM COMICS LEGENDS

WRITTEN BY TOM KING · MATT FRACTION · SEAN MURPHY · GAIL SIMONE · CHRISTOPHER PRIEST · GREG RUCKA · JEFF LEMIRE
ART BY JIM LEE · STEVE LIEBER · SEAN MURPHY · BELÉN ORTEGA · DANIEL SAMPERE · NICOLA SCOTT · RAFA SANDOVAL

AND DON'T MISS MARVEL'S *SPIDER-MAN/SUPERMAN*, ON SALE IN APRIL!

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DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

ALL IN

THE MATRIARCH

INTERVIEW WITH TOM KING

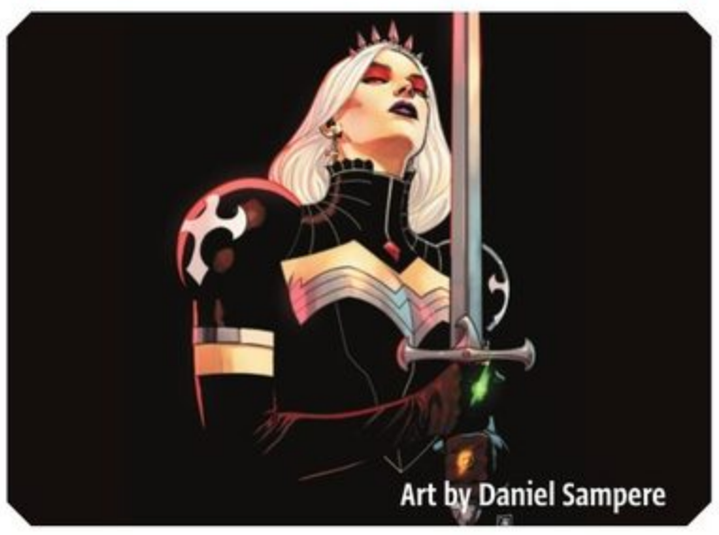
The Matriarch has arrived in the pages of *Wonder Woman*, and she's here to change everything. Superstar writer Tom King reveals Diana's most ambitious villain yet, a royal force of nature with power to topple gods and heroes alike. As "The Wonder War" begins, this future-born conqueror promises an epic showdown that will redefine the Amazing Amazon's legacy.

What can you tell us about the creation of the Matriarch?

From the beginning my brilliant artist, Daniel Sampere, and I wanted to create a huge *Wonder Woman* villain that would be the focus of our arc. We very cleverly put her origin story on the very first page of the series, and nobody noticed, which was fun! We took 25 issues of story leading up to the launch of this character who is the pivotal villain of the whole series, and her name is the Matriarch.

Can you share a bit about the character's design?

Daniel's design is perfect. I wanted her to look like an evil princess, or to have that sort of royalty to her. This look of "I've inherited the world and I can do anything."



Art by Daniel Sampere

How do you craft a villain worthy of Wonder Woman's legacy?

It's my chance to do a Lex Luthor. My chance to do a Joker. That's who the Matriarch is. People who are reading *Wonder Woman* today need an experience as big as the people who were reading *Batman* in the '30s or '40s. They deserve huge comics that aren't just looking backward, but looking forward.

Art by Jorge Fornés

What you started to see in issue #25, the big launch of this character, is she exists in the future. I was sort of inspired by the comics of my youth, where the great villains came from the future. In the future, she has left Themyscira, has conquered Earth, and has killed the Justice League. When you see each of their deaths, their last words to the Matriarch before they succumb to her total power are "Wonder Woman," who's the last hope against this villain.

What can fans expect as we head toward "The Wonder War"?

There's a lot more to come. We've been building on this. We created this character called the Sovereign, who may or may not be her father. You see her birth and the birth of Trinity around the same time. These two babies who start together becoming the greatest of adversaries in the future will be the driving force behind the comic. I couldn't be more excited for where this is going.

Art by Daniel Sampere

DON'T MISS THE EPIC START OF "THE WONDER WAR" IN *WONDER WOMAN* #31, ON SALE IN MARCH!

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